

LEWIS ARTHUR MCGOWAN

**RANCHO SANTA FE
CALIFORNIA**

December 2, 1958

Hon. John E. Fogarty
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

I am interested in extending the benefits of the Hill-Burton Act to American Missionaries so as to enable them to fight communism. One of the best ways for us to carry on an effective campaign to defeat communism is through the activities of American Missionaries engaged in bettering the health and welfare of people in countries where Communism is prevalent. Two of the outstanding American Missionary organizations engaged in such activities are located in your district, i. e., Maryknoll Sisters and Seventh Day Adventist. Such remedial legislation could be called the Fogarty Act same as Hill-Burton names are identified with the other legislation.

I am attorney for the Maryknoll Sisters, hence, my interest in the subject. I am somewhat familiar with the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act. I would like to discuss the subject with you sometime at your convenience. You may recall the favorable publicity few years ago Dr. Schweitzer received for his mission medical work in Africa. What gives merit to what I suggest is that it constitutes one practical way for us to fight communism. I quote from Senate Report No. 729 dated September 4, 1951 with respect to S. 1415 which was approved April 9, 1952 by the President:

"It is the traditional policy of the American Government to foster and protect the activities of the missionaries who bring the principles and techniques of the Christian and democratic way of life to the Orient. The missionaries are teachers, nurses and scientists who are especially trained to work in foreign lands and most of whom will devote their entire lives to this work without compensation. It is the view of this committee that this work must continue to fight effectively the ideologies of communism in the Orient, and particularly the Philippines. In addition, it is acknowledged that the missionaries are effectuating the objectives of the point 4 program without cost to the American taxpayer."

I also quote from the House Report on H. R. 5385, companion bill to S. 1415:

"The institutions which will be benefited by this bill are affiliated with institutions in the United States, which insures that the work carried on by them will afford a visual demonstra-

tion to the people of the Philippines of American principles in action. These demonstrations should prove invaluable in the world-wide struggle against Communism, which is carried on in the Philippine Republic as well as elsewhere in the world."

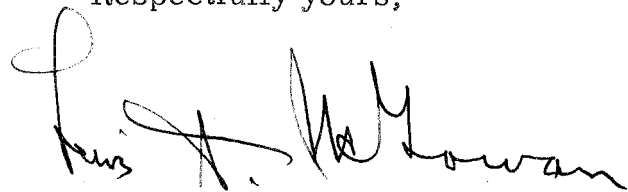
The above mentioned Committee Reports emphasize the aid given American Missionaries to fight communism. I enclose copies of the Reports for your consideration. I am a co-author of the text of S. 1415 which Senator O'Connor introduced in the Senate, which was sponsored by the Maryknoll Sisters. I have given a lot of consideration to the subject matter of the legislation I respectfully propose you consider. So far as I know, no such proposal has ever been considered by any governmental agency.

A great amount of money has been spent by our government abroad for economic and educational purposes to prevent the spread of communism, but very little for medical purposes. Most of the American Missionaries abroad are women engaged in welfare work having contacts with native women who can become a great force in our fight against communism. We have concentrated our activities amongst the men abroad, giving little attention to the native women. Appears to me we have overlooked the possibilities among native women in foreign countries to come to our aid in establishing a bulwark against the spread of communism. I believe American Missionary Religious organizations are qualified to do the job. They are doing it in the Philippines at present and can do it in other countries where communism is prevalent.

I will be deeply appreciative of whatever consideration you may give to the proposal I am submitting to you.

With every good wish, I am

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Louis A. Howan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "H".

LAMc/ba

Enc.